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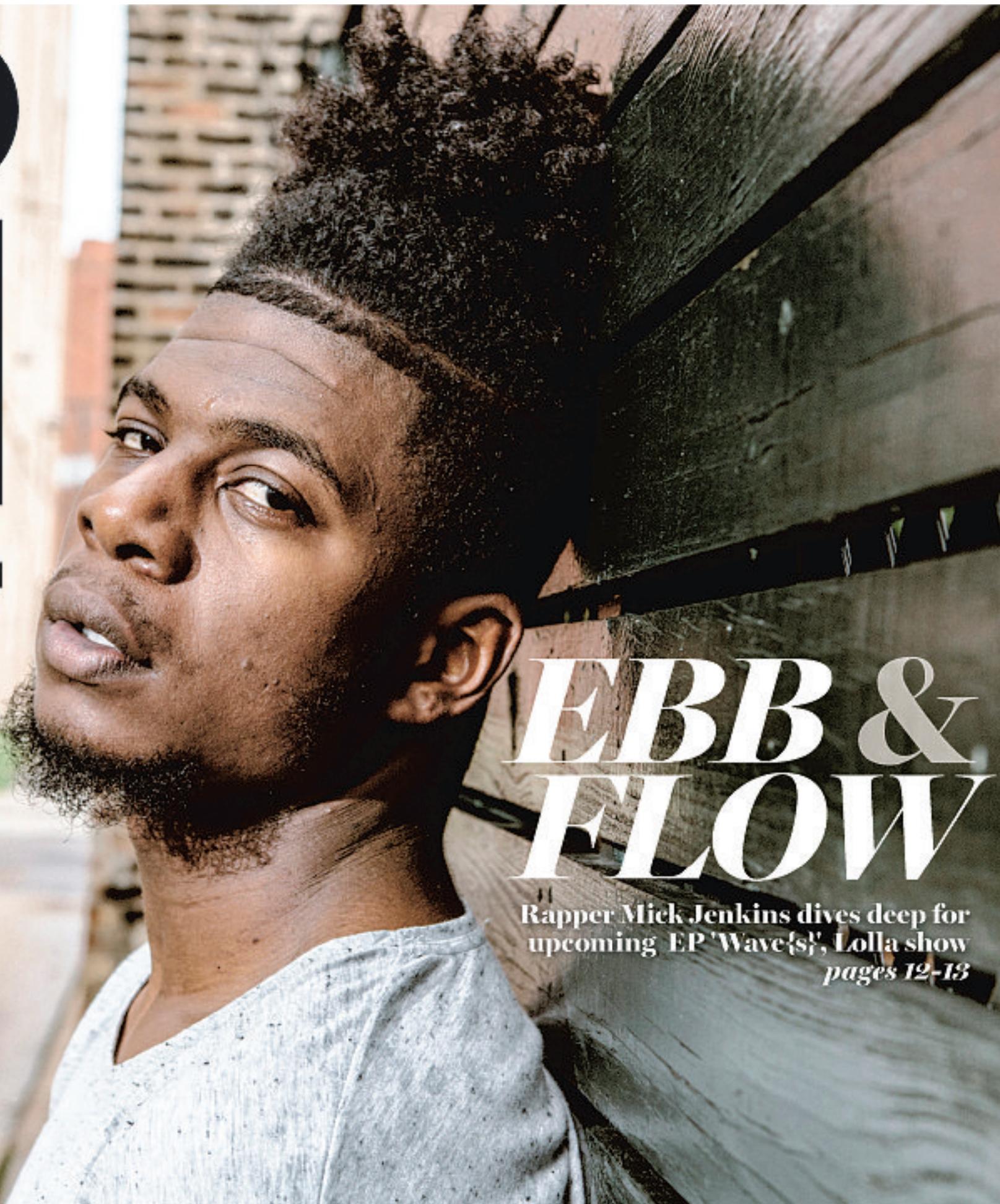
Tuesday
JULY 28, 2015

★ FREE ★

A Chicago Tribune publication

EBB & FLOW

Rapper Mick Jenkins dives deep for upcoming EP 'Wave{s}', Lolla show
pages 12-13



Twitter tackles plagiarism **4**

Bears up against the odds **6**

A new, smaller Au Cheval **14**

**EAT****PERU'S INDEPENDENCE DAY MENU**

Tanta 118 W. Grand Ave. 312-222-9700
Executive chef Jesus Delgado celebrates the July 28 holiday through Sunday with a three-course dinner including quinoa salad with lima bean hummus, beef tenderloin stir-fry and dulce de leche-stuffed shortbread cookies. 5-11 p.m. \$45.

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Chop 1017 S. Delano Court 312-461-9333
Located inside The Shops at Roosevelt Collection, the steakhouse from the owner of Porkchop offers burgers, oysters, steak poutine and seafood, plus 20 draft beers. 5 p.m.-2 a.m.

JASON LITTLE FILE PHOTO FOR REDEYE

DRINK**WATHEN'S BARREL RELEASE PARTY**

Big Star 1531 N. Damen Ave. 773-235-4039

Get a first taste of the single-barrel bourbon created exclusively for The Publican and Big Star served both straight (\$3) and in cocktails (\$10), and learn about the distilling process from Wathen's owner Sam Medley. 6 p.m. No cover.



REDEYE FILE

3-DAY FORECAST**TUESDAY****82° 70°**
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Even hotter**THURSDAY****84° 67°**
A lower low**DO****LOOPSHOP 8**

The Charnel House

3421 W. Fullerton Ave. 312-772-6275
Strangeloop Theatre kicks off its eighth season with a showcase of short plays and scenes from works in progress including a comedy set in an Ikea and a play about a boy trying to build a potato-powered time machine. 8 p.m. \$10. Tickets: strangelooptheatre.blogspot.com

SUMMER JAMS

Greenhouse Theater Center

2257 N. Lincoln Ave.
773-609-4714

Catch a staged variety radio program complete with music, comedy and dramatized stories at 6:30 p.m., followed by Sons of Langston's "Mankind," an ensemble piece exploring black masculinity, at 9 p.m., as part of MPAACT's annual weeklong performance series. \$17 each. Tickets: mpaact.org

REDEYE TIP OF THE DAY

Get tickets to see Red Bull Flying Bach, scheduled for Sept. 25-26 at The Chicago Theatre, at thechicagotheatre.com.

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BUILDING EXCITEMENT

TIME NOT ON THEIR SIDE

FINDING CLUES IN BROWN'S DEATH A CHALLENGE FOR AUTHORITIES

Associated Press

Medical examiners performing an autopsy on Bobbi Kristina Brown said Monday that their initial findings turned up no obvious cause of death, while experts said the months that have passed since Brown was found facedown in a bathtub are working against authorities now tasked with solving how she died.

The Fulton County Medical Examiner's Office said in a statement Monday afternoon that it will likely be several weeks before it can rule on a manner and cause of death for the 22-year-old daughter of Whitney Houston and R&B singer Bobby Brown.

The agency said its initial autopsy turned up "no significant injuries" or "previously unknown medical conditions." It said the next step is ordering lab tests and issuing subpoenas for documents—most likely Bobbi Kristina Brown's hospital records.

Experts said time is definitely an enemy in Brown's case. Any drugs she might have taken passed from her bloodstream long ago. Physical injuries would have been healing even as Brown remained largely unresponsive. If police overlooked any physical evidence at Brown's home after she was hospitalized Jan. 31, recovering it nearly six months later may be impossible.

Dr. Michael Baden, former medical examiner for New York City, has performed more than 20,000 autopsies during a career spanning more than 45 years. He said the first obstacle for forensic pathologists in Brown's case will be a living body's ability to mend itself and erase medical evidence.

"Normally, when we do autopsies, we do them in people who freshly died. Things like toxicology and injuries are clear," said Baden, who helped investigate high-profile cases including the deaths of comedian John Belushi and civil rights worker Medgar Evers.

That means Brown's hospital records will be as important, if not more so, to medical examiners investigating her death as physical evidence from her autopsy.

Baden said it's highly possible that doctors screened Brown's blood for drugs as soon as she was admitted to the hospital. Her medical charts may also note any physical injuries observed by doctors who first treated her. The initial report by emergency medical technicians who first responded to Brown's home could also yield critical clues, he said.

Dr. Henry Lee, the forensic scientist



Whitney Houston (left) performs with her daughter, Bobbi Kristina Brown, in 2009 in New York. Brown died Sunday at age 22, and authorities are working to determine how she died. AP

whose famous cases include the death of child beauty queen JonBenet Ramsey, said the passage of time could make Brown's autopsy "much harder."

But he said valuable clues could possibly still be gained from examining her lungs and digestive system. And lab tests of any clothing she may have worn the day she was rushed to the hospital could turn up residue of drugs or other toxins.

"There's a lot of stuff you can do," Lee said.

They may have done it all six months ago. But time is never a law enforcement officer's or a prosecutor's friend. It's always best to jump on a case early. Evidence disappears; memories fade."

—Ken Hodges,
defense attorney in Atlanta

The scene was similar to how Houston was found dead in 2012 in what authorities later ruled an accidental drowning.

In the case of solving Brown's death, much will depend on how thorough an investigation police launched when she was first hospitalized in January, said Ken Hodges, a former Georgia prosecutor who's now a defense attorney in Atlanta.

"The level of intensity that law enforcement gives things oftentimes is based on the severity of what they've got," said Hodges, who served 12 years as district attorney in Dougherty County. "In a homicide, it's often given to the more seasoned detectives. If this is perceived at the beginning as a drug overdose and not necessarily criminal, it may not be investigated at all or might be given to a less [experienced] detective."

Any fingerprints, blood, hair samples or other physical evidence that police failed to collect six months ago would likely now have vanished, Hodges said. Or any evidence still at the scene months later—such as a fingerprint on a doorknob—would have far less value now because of potential comings and goings since.

"They may have done it all six months ago," Hodges said. "But time is never a law enforcement officer's or a prosecutor's friend. It's always best to jump on a case early. Evidence disappears; memories fade."

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If you stole your tweet, Twitter may censor it

Amina Elahi

» aelahi@chicagotribune.com
» [@aminamania](https://twitter.com/aminamania)

I tweet at **@aminamania** and call my Twitter followers Aminamaniacs.

OK, not really. But if I did call them that and failed to credit

@MusicAdamT, who suggested the idea in January 2014, Twitter could censor my tweet on copyright grounds.

The social media company is showing signs that it will fight rampant joke-stealing by redacting tweets that are reported as containing stolen material.

Twitter user Olga Lexell, a freelance writer who tweets at **@runolgarun**, tweeted Saturday afternoon that the company hid tweets after she reported one of her jokes stolen, according to The Verge. The takedowns were first noticed by user **@PlagiarismBad**, a sort of vigilante account that calls out users who steal tweets.

In place of the joke, the tweets now read: "This tweet from [user] has been withheld in response to a report from the copyright holder."

Twitter's copyright policy follows the Digital Millennium Copyright Act, which defines how and on what grounds someone can report copyright infringement. On its support page, Twitter says it mostly responds to copyright complaints affecting images, video or links to such copyrighted content.

The company did not immediately respond to a request for more information about its policies for taking down copyrighted materials.

This isn't the first time Twitter has taken down tweets after a copyright complaint, The Next Web notes.

All the major social media sites deal with

widespread stealing of original content, with some accounts gaining thousands, even millions, of followers on their ability to collect the best—often funniest—jokes in one place. Sometimes they're run by individuals, while other accounts employ spambots who strip and repost text without credit.

Will Twitter's recent action to halt thefts push other platforms to do the same? According to its Web page, Instagram already takes down copyrighted material in response to requests from copyright holders.

This means the burden of copyright enforcement lies with content creators, many

who may lack the tools to track where their work ends up. Text can be easy to search, and Google's "search by image" tool allows users to upload images or paste the images' URLs to see where else they've been published.

But tracking where jokes and media are copied becomes difficult, especially because smart users make small changes that make theft harder to find.

Some may argue that it's impossible for creators to keep up with stolen content in an era that makes theft as easy as copying and pasting.

Some propose holding platforms responsible for making sure content reported stolen is never posted again. But others say that's not feasible, either, according to On The Media.

Jokes aside, platforms are getting pressure to track other kinds of content as well. The Wall Street Journal reported Sunday that the Senate Intelligence Committee is trying to compel companies such as Google, Facebook and Twitter to track terrorist activity.

With demands like that pending, it seems unlikely the platforms are going to expend resources to proactively protect your one-liners.

AMINA ELAHİ IS A REPORTER AT BLUE SKY INNOVATION.



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Chicago Tribune
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redeyechicago.com

Managing Editor:
Kristin Samuelson, @ksamchi

CONTACT US

Newsroom: 312-222-4970

[redeyechicago@redeyechicago.com](mailto:redeye@redeyechicago.com)

Advertising: 312-527-8077

advertising@tribune.com

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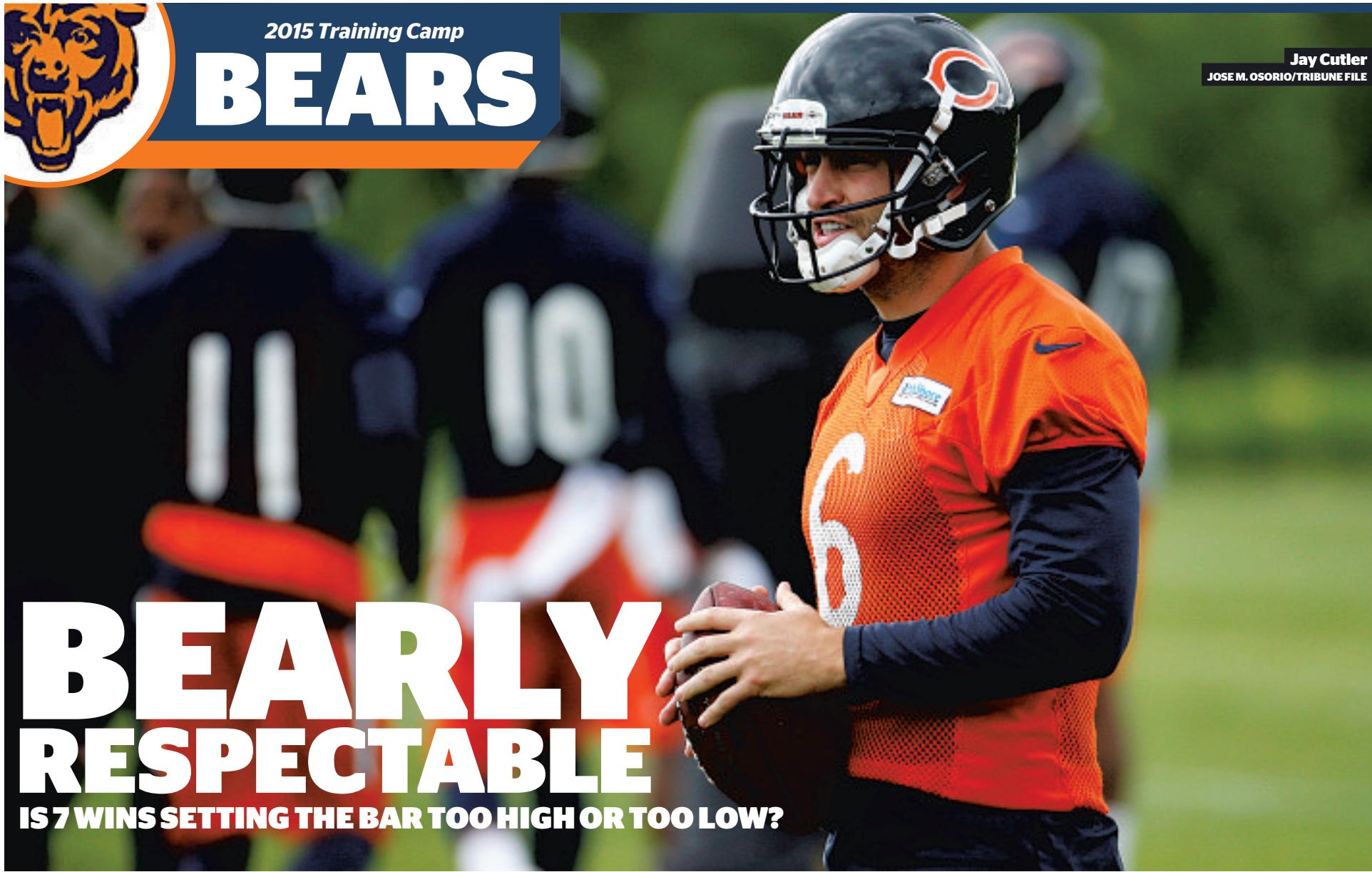
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2015 Training Camp

BEARS



BEARLY RESPECTABLE

IS 7 WINS SETTING THE BAR TOO HIGH OR TOO LOW?

By Rich Campbell and Dan Wiederer | CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The Bears finished 2014 in a tailspin. They finished 5-11 and failed to make the playoffs for the seventh time in eight seasons. The implosion triggered major changes at Halas Hall, starting with the overhaul of the front office and coaching staff. So it's little wonder that oddsmakers aren't revving up the Bears bandwagon. As training camp

closes in, the Bears hold 60-1 odds to win Super Bowl 50. And the over/under for their victory total sits at 7. What's on tap for 2015? Two Bears insiders weigh in.

3 reasons to take the over

1. John Fox. It has to start with the new coach, who possesses a contagious blend of confidence and energy and arrived in Chicago with head coaching experience. That's something the previous eight Bears head coaches couldn't say. Fox's success—119 regular-season wins, seven playoff appearances, two trips

to the Super Bowl—has bought him instant credibility. He also has shown at his previous two stops that he understands the formula for quick turnarounds.

2. The targets. As the fifth offensive coordinator attempting to steady the Jay Cutler roller coaster in Chicago, Adam Gase senses Cutler can make a jump forward if his confidence is revived. And there's no easier catalyst for that than to remind the 32-year-old of the weapons around him. Alshon Jeffery has 174 catches,

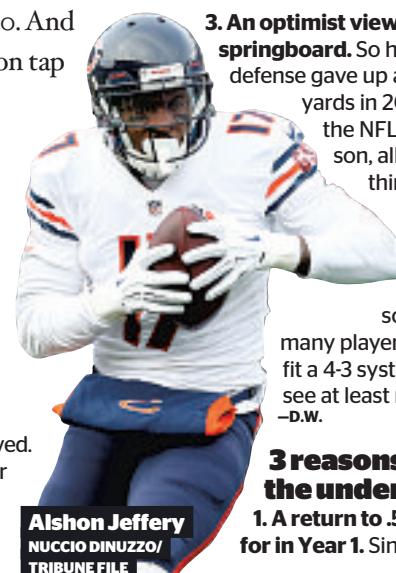
2,554 yards and 17 TDs the past two seasons. Eddie Royal has Cutler's trust after the duo connected 91 times for 980 yards and five TDs in 2008 with Denver. Kevin White, the Bears' top draft pick, has big-play ability. And then there's the talent of both Matt Forte and Martellus Bennett.

3. An optimist views rock bottom as a springboard.

So here goes. The Bears defense gave up a franchise-record 6,313 yards in 2013, then finished 30th in the NFL in that category last season, allowing 6,033. It's hard for things to get worse, right? So even with new coordinator Vic Fangio overseeing a drastic change with his aggressive 3-4 scheme being run with many players who were acquired to fit a 4-3 system, the Bears ought to see at least modest improvement. —D.W.

3 reasons to take the under

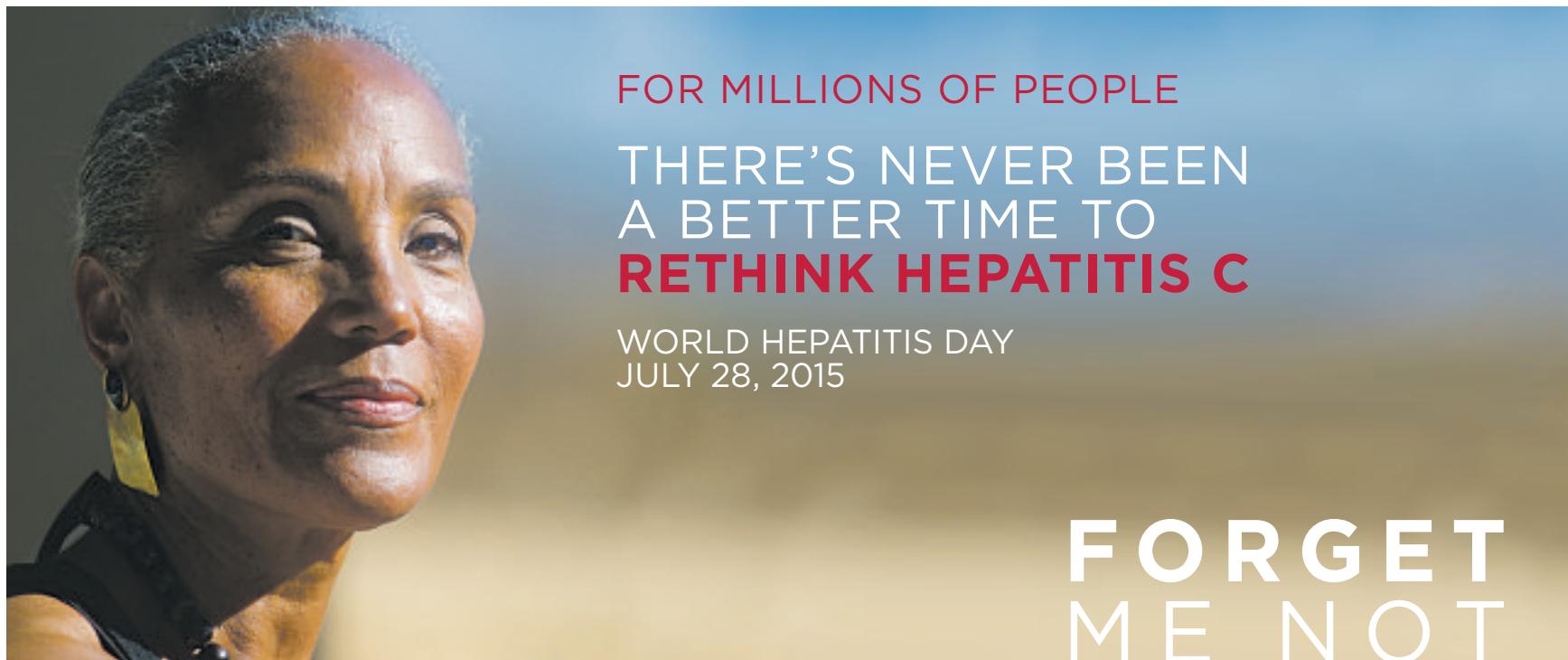
1. A return to .500 is too much to ask for in Year 1. Since the NFL last expanded

John Fox
AP PHOTOAlshon Jeffery
NUCCIO DINUZZO/
TRIBUNE FILE

in 2002, a team has changed its coach after a five-win season 13 times. Only five of those teams (38.5 percent) won more than seven games the following year. It can be done. If Fox can buck the trend for a third time, he deserves tons of credit. But here's thinking the odds will catch up to him because of all the shortcomings he inherited.

2. Jay Cutler. The Bears tried to right the ship this offseason by changing their general manager and head coach. But how much meaningful improvement is possible with Cutler still at quarterback? Instead of building on the offense's 2013 success, Cutler led the NFL last season with 24 turnovers. Familiar poor decisions and broken mechanics stifled the offense and ultimately got him benched in Week 16. Cutler's offensive coordinators change, but the bottom line remains: He's not a winner.

3. Growing pains on defense. The defense has enormous long-term potential with Fangio coordinating a new 3-4 base front, but the transition figures to be painful in the short term. Fangio said in May that the three down linemen are the "heart and soul of the defense," but the Bears still have too many questions up front. —R.C.



HEPATITIS C: A FORGOTTEN DISEASE. A GLOBAL EPIDEMIC.

Here's something that you may not know. Hepatitis C (Hep C) is a serious disease that affects up to 150 million people worldwide—and 3.5 million in the U.S. But because the disease is slow moving, and symptoms may not appear for years or even decades, chronic Hep C is often pushed to the back of the mind, or forgotten.

There's something that shouldn't be forgotten—if left untreated, Hep C can lead to liver damage and potentially liver cancer.

HEPATITIS C: THE FORGOTTEN FACTS

DID YOU KNOW, IN THE U.S.:

#1 Hep C is the number one cause of liver cancer and liver transplants

x5 Baby Boomers (people born between 1945-1965) are 5 times more likely to have chronic Hep C than other adults

75% Up to 75% of people with Hep C are unaware that their livers are slowly being damaged

HEPATITIS C: IT CAN BE CURED

The good news is that Hep C hasn't been forgotten—Hep C can be cured. In fact, there's never been a better time to rethink Hep C because in the last few years, scientific advances have made treatment shorter and more effective than previously. Cure means the virus is not detected in the blood when measured 3 months after treatment is completed.

If you or someone you know want to learn more about Hep C, get the facts and talk to a Hep C specialist.

World Hepatitis Day: It's time to rethink Hep C.



Call a Hep C Educator at **844-4HepcHope** who can answer your questions and help prepare you for a conversation with your Hep C specialist. Register for more information at HepcHope.com.

8 4 4 - 4 H e p c H o p e | H e p c H o p e . c o m

fiveonfive**JOSHIN'**

RedEye music reporter Josh Terry debuts on the panel today. He's obviously good at math.



Scott Bolohan
@scottbolohan
RedEye contributor



Aly Bockler
@chicagopoly
Reporter, "You & Me This Morning"



Angi Taylor
@angitaylorkiss
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Josh Terry
@joshterry
RedEye music reporter

1	Predict how long the Cubs' next streak of not being no-hit will last.	69.	Till Caitlyn Jenner gives birth.	How long will I be alive?	Joe Maddon draws no-hit bids like Kylie Jenner draws creepy attention. Won't be long.	As soon as another @CubsNoHitStreak Twitter account emerges.
2	What's better than winning \$471,124.50 on a bet you paid 50 cents for?	Not giving 50 Cent money.	I don't know, but I hear 50 Cent could use that cash about now, or even 50 cents!	Being 50 Cent and paying that out to the chick you owe for posting her sex tape online.	Getting the 50 cents from 50 Cent after his latest bankruptcy hearing.	Winning \$471,125 on a bet you paid 50 cents for.
3	"This place has been tough on us the last couple of years." Who said this, and about what?	Hootie and the Blowfish, about the earth.	Rod Blagojevich's hair, speaking on prison life.	The Cubs. About life.	Adam Sandler speaking on multiplexes in general. "Pixels"? Worse weekend than the Cubs.	Me, every time I visit the Wieners Circle.
4	What was missing from the 2015 Baseball Hall of Fame induction ceremony?	Felix Pie.	General interest? They should lump this in with the Home Run Derby/All-Star Game to ramp up some excitement!	Pete Rose.	Influenced by Chief Keef, Pete Rose finally enters the hallowed baseball grounds via hologram.	Barry Bonds, Mike Piazza and Sammy Sosa inductions.
5	Being the runner-up twice at the Tour de France is like being the runner-up in a most testicles contest.	... Le Bogus.	... you're still competing against Armstrong and his drugs.	... wearing corduroy pants in the summer and rubbing your thighs for two weeks—for no damn reason.	... having the most unnecessary workout routine.

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— THE NEW YORK TIMES



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THE DIGIT

21

That's how many times the defending Stanley Cup champion Blackhawks will appear on national TV next season, including opening night against the N.Y. Rangers on Oct. 7.

Jonathan Toews
AP PHOTO

Now they've got bad blood?

The Houston Astros clearly think a lot of themselves/are meticulously planning for the future. The team has moved Taylor Swift's tour date at Minute Maid Park in case of a playoff run. Her show in Houston was set for Oct. 13 but now will be Sept. 9. Houston, which hasn't been to the postseason since losing the 2005 World Series to the White Sox, wasn't expected to contend entering this season.



Michael Bradley
MCT SPORTS PHOTO

HOT DATE

Nov. 13

The U.S. national team will attempt to qualify for the 2018 World Cup in Russia beginning Nov. 13 in St. Louis. Their opponent will be the winner of a match between Aruba and St. Vincent & the Grenadines. And yes, St. Vincent & the Grenadines is an actual country. (It's in the Caribbean; we Googled it.)

STOP. WATCH.

WHITE SOX AT BOSTON

6:10 p.m. CSN

With the MLB trade deadline looming Friday, this could be the last time you see Jeff Samardzija pitching in a White Sox uniform. Don't be surprised if he's in Toronto by this time next week. Or with the Cubs. Or in Bears training camp after switching to football to relive his wide receiver days at Notre Dame.

ALSO ON TAP

■ Cubs vs. Colorado, 7:05 p.m. CSN+ ■ Sky at Phoenix, 9 p.m. WCIU2

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music

Mick Jenkins steps up his game
for his new project 'Wave[s]'

RISING TIDE



LENNY GILMORE/REDEYE PHOTOS

By Josh Terry | REDEYE

RAPPER MICK JENKINS FINDS HIMSELF OUTSIDE the city's misleading hip-hop dichotomy of drill and Savemoney, which ignores everything in between. He possesses the self-serious aura of a preacher, and there's no doubt that he has something to say: In his music, the 24-year-old Pilsen resident raps with a commanding gravitas, his incisively thoughtful words piercing from his calm baritone.

Born in Alabama and raised in Chicago, Jenkins is smarter and more perceptive about his craft than any of his peers, intuitively

calling out social, economic and racial injustice in culture with ease that veterans twice his stature can't.

Jenkins' last mixtape, his breakthrough project "The Water[s]," found the young MC focused on a central metaphor of water as knowledge and truth.

It was a conceptual leap from his earlier work, specifically 2013's promising "Trees and Truths" and 2012's fledgling "The Pursuit of HappyNess: The Story of Mickalas Cage," and in nearly every way, from flow to beats and lyrical prowess, Jenkins stepped up his game.

Now, he's ready for the next jump.

On Aug. 21, Jenkins will release a nine-

song EP titled "Wave[s]," a transitional effort before he completes his long-awaited debut studio album, which is slated to arrive late next year.

Jenkins, who'll make a homecoming live appearance Aug. 1 at Lollapalooza and is currently contributing music to Spike Lee's upcoming film "Chi-Raq," sat down with RedEye at Rosebud Studios in Pilsen to discuss his live show, his upcoming projects and people wanting music with a message.

JTERRY@REDEYECHICAGO.COM | @JOSHTERRY

On his Lollapalooza homecoming

"We've been practicing, arranging something new. I didn't want to be on the Lolla stage as one man with a DJ. I want to give a better show."

On white kids rapping along to the N-word at shows

"It definitely isn't OK. I have a lot of thoughts about it. I think before anything I'm just trying to understand people so I can change people. It's very crazy for me. I did a show and the lights and the sound just stopped in the middle of the set. I said, 'Let's do 'The Water[s]' [a capella].' We had the drummer kick a beat to do the song and that went so well, we thought, '[Bleep] it, let's do 'Martyrs' live.' The music still wasn't on, and all I saw and heard was white people screaming, 'N—a. I couldn't take it; I couldn't get it out of my mind.'

"At the end of the day though, I have all the power. I wrote it and I completely control what they say if they're going to sing along to my lyrics. It puts me in a weird position, a dichotomy of emotions because I shouldn't feel like I can't write these words. Though I understand that they want to say it, especially with the idea that I wrote it."

On the rise in "conscious rap"

"I think people aren't dumb. I feel like great records that have made their way into mainstream success, like Nas' 'I Can,' [still resonate]. At shows, people like good music and music with a message."



or four mixtapes before they blow up and get the national acclaim they deserve. It is changing, for sure, especially with Kendrick and Cole being able to put out albums speaking on what they're speaking on and selling the way they sold."

“

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"What we are so appalled at whenever we are talking about certain types of music is the amount of people that follow the words of these artists in droves to no end—even when the end is pretty negative. That being said, there's always different shifts in any field. There was a shift when hip-hop music was largely positive and politically charged, and then it shifted to super-super-gangster. [Laughs.] There's shifts, and I think another shift is taking place. But I think it's happening slowly—I don't give as much credit to it as other people do."

"I think it's crazy that artists like Kendrick, Big K.R.I.T. and myself have to put out three

On his upcoming EP "Wave[s]" and its "party song" with producer Kaytranada

"It depends on your definition of 'party.' I would call [the song] more of a soiree. [Laughs.] It's called 'Your Love,' and it's definitely not something I intended to make, but [Kaytranada] sent me a batch of beats and I heard it and thought, 'Oh [bleep], what if I did this?'"

"It turned out really cool, completely different than what I do. Those hard-hitting rap songs are what people have come to expect, but 'Wave[s]' is a lot more musical, a lot more melodic. There's short songs with an attempt at being infectious, so it creates a different vibe, a lot of different waves and experimenta-

tion with different sounds. There's not 'Yeezus' experimentation, though. I listened to a lot of neo-soul and alternative music and was really playing around with that sound. 'The Water[s]' was just a sound for me in the same way that 'Trees and Truths' was a sound. I think every project I do will have its own sound, and for 'Wave[s],' I wanted to use a bit more of the melodic influences that help me in my rap anyway. I sing a bit more, and the choruses are just an attempt at being infectious in a lot of different ways. I was calling myself 'the dark-skinned Pharrell' when I was making it, if that gives any light to what it might sound like. [Laughs.]"

On making "Wave[s]" his first for-sale project

"To be honest, music sales have been declining in general, but it's more because I'm just a hardhead and like to challenge common thought. I think it's common for people to feel like an artist owes a fan something, that they owe fans free music. That is the aura of today's fan—it's really kind of selfish."

"I said this the other day: 'If you're a brand-new fan of Mick Jenkins and you press play on "The Water[s]" and you love it, I'm the only one who's done anything for anybody.' Unless you've actually submitted a dollar to me, I don't owe you anything but good music, if you pay for good music. And I don't owe you anything but a good show if you pay for a good show. There's a lot of time, effort, thousands of dollars and stressed-out relationships that went into the year and a half of creating 'The Water[s]' I shouldn't give it away for free—it doesn't make any sense."

"Now I'm not saying that I'll never put out music for free again. But for right now, that's how I feel. I think there's a big disconnect with the fan and the artist when it comes to that, and this is just me challenging that."

On his upcoming debut album, "The Healing Component"

"'The Water[s]' was very broad and just an introduction to the idea that there's this 'water' out here. I think 'The Healing Component' is [exploring] what that is. I know a lot of artists like Kendrick Lamar, [who is] able to get very specific with songs like 'Wesley's Theory' and 'These Walls.' You could say that [on 'To Pimp a Butterfly'] that certain songs were about certain things. I think that's something you can't really do on 'The Water[s]', [except] for two or three songs. You'll be able to do that on 'The Healing Component,' as I have something very specific to say."

"In general, 'The Healing Component' is love. My whole purpose—we're supposed to be out here helping people, saving people and bringing people closer to the one I worship. I was raised Christian, and those are real beliefs. Heaven is the be-all and end-all for me, so love is the real healing component. Just talking about different levels of love, it's very common for our generation and people in general to not be familiar with real love, love that isn't romantic. There's a lot of aspects of love that I think a lot of people have never even experienced because they don't know about them. People are looking for all kinds of wrong love. People don't understand brotherly love."

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Au Cheval spinoff heading to Bucktown

By Morgan Olsen | REDEYE

If you've ever waited for a table at West Loop's Au Cheval, you have a deeper understanding of patience. Those stacked patties are about to become a bit more accessible with Small Cheval, a spinoff of the burger staple, expected to open Aug. 1 in the former Roxie's By the Slice space in Bucktown at 1732 N. Milwaukee Ave.

Small Cheval is already boasting some big perks. Owner Brendan Sodikoff said he expects the dine-in and to-go spot to be "faster [and] more accessible" than its West Loop counterpart. Yes, you finally can order your burger to go. The price tags are also getting trimmed—Small Cheval's menu includes hamburgers for \$8.95, cheeseburgers for \$9.95 and



Cheeseburger at Au Cheval

fries for \$2.95. At Au Cheval, a single cheeseburger goes for \$10.95 and fries ring up at \$5.95. Taking notes from the West Loop menu, Small Cheval also will offer shakes, cocktails, beer and shots to wash down those burgers.

The one downside: Small Cheval won't be open seven days a week like its big sister. According to a news release,

the Bucktown spot will dish out burgers Wednesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to midnight. Hey, you can't have it all, but getting a taste of America's top burger (according to the Food Network, verified by RedEye) without the three-hour wait is a good deal in our book.

MCOLSEN@REDEYECHICAGO.COM
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WGN 9 NEWS INVESTIGATES



Why no one is smiling at the Miss Illinois pageant organization.

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Acting out loud

Ed Sheeran is an actor now! Sheeran has snagged a role on Kurt Sutter's upcoming drama "The Bastard Executioner" on FX, according to [thr.com](#). The series is being billed as "a blood-soaked medieval epic that tells the story of a 14th century warrior whose life is forever changed when a divine messenger beseeches him to lay down his sword and lead the life of a journeyman executioner," [thr.com](#) says. Wow, what a mouthful. We hope it's great.

Conan O'Brien sued

A San Diego man has filed a lawsuit against Conan O'Brien, TBS and others for allegedly violating copyright on several jokes. According to [thr.com](#), Robert Kaseberg claims that he made several jokes on his personal blog and Twitter, four of which ended up in O'Brien's late-night monologue. One of the jokes referenced the Washington Monument and shrinkage. Let's all agree we're better than shrinkage jokes, OK? O'Brien's production company Conaco believes there's no merit to the lawsuit, [thr.com](#) says.

Slumdog Mindy Lahiri-aire

Freida Pinto has been tapped to guest-star in the season premiere of "The Mindy Project." According to [ew.com](#), the actress will play Danny Castellano's girlfriend. OK, don't worry, you guys. This is all part of the alternate universe in the show that will explore what Mindy's life would be like if she wasn't with Danny. Don't forget, she's going to be married to Joseph Gordon-Levitt, and that's OK with us.



Ice, ice, baby

Rapper Ice T and his wife, Coco Austin, are expecting their first child together. Austin tweeted Monday, "I'm pregnant!!! Y'all Ice & I are so excited!! I announced it Friday on our new talkshow which airs Aug 3rd." Little baby Ice T, how cute.